

B.A.R.G. NEWS

The official Newsletter of the Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc. (# 6953T)

CLUB ROOMS
BALLARAT AIRPORT
UNIT 31

P.O. BOX 1261
MAIL CENTRE
BALLARAT VIC 3354

MEETING DATES

At Club Rooms 8pm start

September 27th.

October 25th.

November 29th.

Volume 25 Number 9

SEPTEMBER 2002



IN THIS ISSUE



Page 1 : Meeting Dates. – Outgoing President's Report

Page 2 : Who is who at BARG

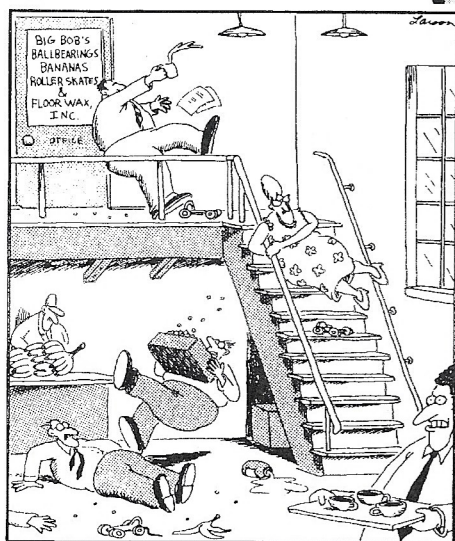
Page 3 : Minutes of the August Meeting

Page 4 & 5: Memories of Stan VK3SE.

Page 6 : The Editor turns back the clock.

Page 7 : Business Sponsors. – Mowing roster .

Page 8 : Wrapper



BARG Clubrooms – VK3BML

OUTGOING PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is said that " the sands through the hourglass fall " and so the days of another year have again passed and the Annual General Meeting has been held.

I find this a time of special significance, as it reminds me of the fellowship and resourcefulness of the group to which I belong ... the league of Radio Amateurs.

The talents of the Ballarat Radio Group have been noteworthy during the past year, and on behalf of the executive committee I would like to thank each and every member for their positive contribution and participation in the activities that have made it another successful year for our group.

I am also reminded ,with sadness, of the passing of two of our stalwart supporters of Amateur Radio, members Jim VKANH and lifelong mentor Stan VK3SE. We will all miss their friendship and unswerving support.

To the incoming committee, I wish you every success and with the new approaches and fresh ideas of a new executive, and continued member support, we will again see another successful and fruitful year for the Group.

Thanking You

Geoffrey Smith VK3ADB (President 2001/2002.)



Inc. # 6953T

OFFICE BEARERS – 2001 / 2002



COMMITTEE



PRESIDENT	GORDON CORNELL	VK3FGC	HELEN	5339 2427
VICE PRESIDENT				
SECRETARY	TOM GEORGE	VK3DMK	ELAINE	5333 2770
TREASURER	BOB TERRILL	VK3BNC	BETTY	5339 5317
MEMBER'S REP.	DOUG RAPER	VK3VBA	VAL	5332 3565
MEMBER'S REP.	CHARLIE STEWART	VK3DCS	SHIRLEY	5331 7425
MEMBER'S REP.	IAN LLOYD	VK3HFK	DEBBIE	5331 1480
MEMBER'S REP.	STEVEN DICK	VK3MNA	MARY	5331 5526
MEMBER'S REP.	PETER DIPROSE	VK3KDP	MARION	
MEMBER'S REP.				

OFFICERS

QSL MANAGER	DARYL QUIRK	VK3XDQ	W	
EDUCATION OFFICER	TOM GEORGE	VK3DMK		
TECHNICAL OFFICER	BOB TERRILL	VK3BNC		5317
NEWSLETTER EDITOR	NORM D'ANGRI	VK3LBA		5334 1613
NET CO-ORDINATOR	CLEM ALLAN			5348 7709
AWARDS MANAGER	REG CARTER			5341 7585
HISTORIAN/LIBRARIAN	DICK CURNOW			5330 1927
EXAMINATION OFFICER	CHARLIE STEWART		SHIRLEY	5331 7425
PUBLICITY OFFICER	DOUG RAPER		VAL	5332 3565
PROPERTY OFFICER	JEFF PIGDO		LYN	5332 7041
WICEN STATE CO-ORD.	GORDON CORNELL	VK3FGC	HELEN	5339 2427
HAMVENTION CO-ORD.	STEVEN DICK	VK3MNA	MARY	5331 5526
SCRAMBLE CO-ORD.		VK3CAZ	SHELAGH	5341 7585
AMENITIES COMMITTEE		SWL	CHARLIE	5331 7425
		SWL	REG	5341 7585
		XYL	BOB	5339 5317
		VK3FMC	DICK	5330 1927
		XYL	CLEM	5348 7709
		XYL	GEOFFREY	5345 8387

BARG REPEATERS

VK3RBA	VOICE	146.750 MHz	Mt Buninyong
VK3RWA	VOICE	147.100 MHz	Ben Nevis
VK3RPC	PACKET	144.750 MHz	Mt. Warrenheip
VK3RBU	VOICE	438.475 MHz	Mt. Hollowback.
VK3RMB	BEACON	432.535 MHz	Mt. Buninyong
VK3RBV	ATV	426.250 MHz	Ballarat

BARG LIFE MEMBERS

VK3CFB	JIM WRIGHT
VK3AXH	IAN MC.DONALD
VK3WN	KEVIN HUGHES
exVK3AQM	PHIL SEDDON

10M NET: Tuesday Nights 8 pm.
28.475 mHz

ACTIVITIES

CLUB NET: Thursday Nights at 8 pm. (8.30 pm during Daylight Saving.) Freq.: 3.610 MHz +/- QRM.

MEETINGS: General Meeting : Last Friday each month (except December) at 8.00 pm. at Club Rooms.

CLUB ROOMS : Ballarat Airport – Unit 31 – (Off Learmonth Road) Ballarat.

HAMVENTION : Last weekend in October (2002 – 27th October.) **FOXHUNTING**: 5/6th October

CONSTRUCTION DAYS : Saturday afternoons at clubrooms - 1 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE TO: The Secretary. BARG Inc.. BOX 1261 MAIL CENTRE. BALLARAT 3354

NEWSLETTER ARTICLES TO: Norm D'Angri (VK3LBA). 29 Lawrence St. Alfredton Vic. 3350

email: <nda@vic.australis.com.au>

B.A.R.G. HOMEPAGE: www.barg.org.au

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The Minutes - 30th August 2002

BALLARAT AMATEUR RADIO GROUP inc, Minutes 30th August 2002

Meeting opened at 9:50pm by Gordon VK3FGC

Apologies: CAZ, Sheilah, BVI, Pat, AIG, JEM, CFH MNA/DCS

Minutes: As read in newsletter. HFK/DCS

Correspondence IN; Commonwealth Bank, James Glenn, Newsletters, City of Ballarat
DMK/HRZ

Treasurers Report: As tabled. DCS/HFK

Education: Three candidates doing well. DMK

Tech: Letter to Greg Andrews at BA's for assistance while RWA repaired. AXH

Hamvention: Foxhunt on 2 weekends before Hamvention, night hunt.

IRLP; .Problem with operators not using callsigns when connecting checking a node.
HEG

Club Net Western Zone going well. CIS

GENERAL BUSINESS:

Notify WIA of VK3SE now silent key.

Thanks to VK3AXH IAN, for great effort during Remeberance Day Contest from the club rooms, BNC in VK4 heard VK3BML.

Clock needed for club rooms.

Some early amateur radio memorabilia presented to the club , via Steve VK3MNA, from Stan VK3SE estate, photographs, licenses and awards. Photos to be placed on walls of meeting room. MNA

Suggestions for Council Community Grant

IRLP recurrent costs

Upgrade of repeater devices.

IRLP meeting after general meeting.

Thanks to Valerie for culinary efforts. VK3FGC

Meeting adjourned 10:50pm

--Secretary had to leave during meeting, fire brigade in his street, all OK, house down the street on fire for second time in 6 months.

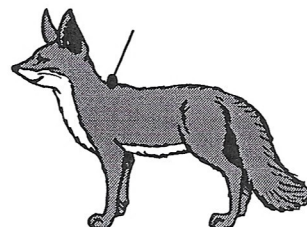
DON'T FORGET...BARG's NET frequency on 10M, 28.475 MHz, so members can chat, use at anytime, Tuesday Nights 8:00pm net call in.

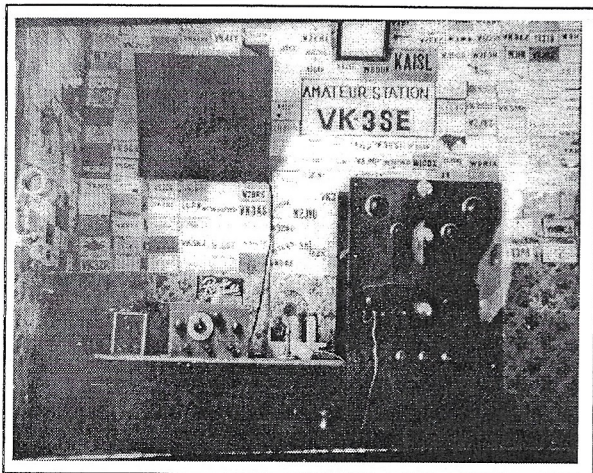


FOX HUNTING AND A.R.D.F. OCTOBER 5TH and 6TH

The Ballarat Amateur Radio Group will be conducting Fox Hunting and A.R.D.F. Competitions, including Night Hunting, on 2M, 70cm, 10M, and 80M.

Contact Stephen VK3MNA on 5331 5526 for more information.





MEMORIES OF STAN VK3SE (Silent Key)

by

STEPHEN VK3MNA

Stan VK3SE first appeared on air in 1936. As you can see by the photograph above, there were none of the fancy radios as we know them today, but only 'home brew' equipment that you managed to build up yourself.

Over the years Stan made many friends through his radio hobby, and one of these is a local, Ted VK3NIZ, who maintained his friendship with Stan for over 60 years, an achievement in itself.

Another of Stan's long-time friends in Ballarat was VK3HW John Lewis, and when John moved to Clifton Springs some years ago Stan used to travel down and spend some time with him.

In June 1988 B.A.R.G. made Stan a life member. Stan was well known in the club for his offers of help to anyone who required it, especially in the field of CW, in which Stan excelled.

Stan participated in many contests during his time in Amateur Radio, and of course in a short time he accumulated hundreds of QSL cards, as shown in the early photo above.

Constructors who may have found themselves short of a component or needed help in some stage of their project could always rely on Stan to help them out with the required part, if he had one available, or to offer advice on any of their problems. He was also aware of test equipment that would be required to make adjustment of the home brew gear easier, and would not hesitate to lend it if he had it available.

As for myself, I knocked on Stan's door one day and he took me under his wing to teach me Morse Code. His first question was "Do you want to learn Morse Code? If so do you want to learn it my way?" The first thing he did was to take me out to the shack and asked me if I knew the letters. He then gave me a key and said "send me a 'K'" That was my first meeting with Stan and from then on we became the best of friends.

Stan worked all bands on HF, VHF, and UHF and you may remember he was also instrumental in the setting up of the ATV station with Ben VK3TOP a few years ago.

Stan had many achievements during his life. As for those who knew him, their achievement was to know him as a friend. He was always very obliging and tolerant to those anxious to learn, and many BARG members owe a portion of their electronics knowledge to the assistance offered by Stan.

I have no doubt that Stan VK3SE is currently CQing in his new world.



Stephen VK3MNA



PERSONAL PARTICULARS.

Height 5' 1"
 Colour of Eyes Grey
 Colour of Hair Dark Brown
 Complexion Fair
 Special Peculiarities -

PHOTOGRAPH OF HOLDER.



VALE

STAN
 WIDGERY
 VK3SE

Regulation 129.

Form 14.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

Wireless Telegraphy Act 1905-1919.

Certificate No. 1701

AMATEUR OPERATOR'S
 Certificate of Proficiency in Radio-Telegraphy

GRANTED BY THE POSTMASTER-GENERAL.

This is to certify that, under the provisions of Wireless Telegraph Regulations made under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1905-1919, Mr. STANLEY ERNEST WIDGERY

has been examined in Radio-Telegraphy and has demonstrated that he has—
 (a) an elementary knowledge of the working and adjustment of low-powered apparatus; and
 (b) a knowledge of the principal abbreviations and regulations laid down by the Radio-Telegraph Convention;

and that he has also passed in—

(c) transmission and reception by ear at a speed of not less than twelve words per minute (five letters being counted as one word).

Certifying Officer

Date 17th August, 1936.

Signature of holder

Date and place of birth 3rd October, 1918. Ballarat, Victoria.

NR.—This Certificate may be endorsed, or withdrawn, at the discretion of the Postmaster-General in case of misconduct or breach of the Regulations on the part of the holder. Unless so withdrawn it will continue to be valid so long as the Regulations governing its issue under the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1905-1919 remain in force.

G 1246.

Fee for issue, 2/6.

The B.A.R.G. thanks the family of our late member for these documents and other memorabilia which has been passed on to us.

SECOND VK SIDEBAND GATHERING

HAMILTON, VICTORIA

JANUARY, 29-30, 1966



Back Row (L. to R.): Bill 3AMZ, Bill 3AHT, Al 5MF, Roy 3ES, Phil 5NN, Les 3XM, Reg 5QR, Arle 2AYA, Geoff 3AC, Ken 5KC, Thorb 3APS, Bill 3RE.
 Third Row: Jack, 3IP, John 3HW, Chas 3IB, Ian Drysdale, Alf 3LC, Jamie 3MC, Bruce 3BM, John 3JA, Ike 3OW, Keith 3ANI, Bob 3AXE, Keith 3AKS, Tony 3AOK, Dan 3ADD.
 Second Row: Andy 3UJ, Mark 3MM, Keith 3AKB, Godfrey 3BT, George 3AG, Ray 3VO, Greg, Fred 3Y5, Eric 3ZL, Alex 2EX.
 Front Row: Stan 3SE, Leo 3XO, John 2QJ, Tim 3TW, Laurie 3VH, Ern 3AEM, Harry 3ZX, John 3JX, George 3XL, Dick 3ARP.

THINKING BACK ! REMINISCENCES by NORM - VK3LBA

After editing the preceding article on the late VK3SE, my memory took me back to 1948 when I was still a student at the Ballarat Junior Technical School in Ballarat.

One of my friends mentioned to me that he was building up a 4 valve radio that had been featured in the magazine "Radio and Hobbies" edited by John Moyle. I had no idea of electronics at that stage, although I had made a few Xtal sets, but I adopted the attitude that "if he could do it, so could I" and I made sure that I channelled my meagre pocket money into the purchase of the magazine and the construction of the "4 valve regenerative receiver" featured therein.

There were not many shops in Ballarat at that time where radio parts could be obtained, but I managed to source them from a Mr Joe Cynski, on the corner of Sturt and Errard St.

This business later became the Radio and Electronics shop of "Lance and Yorke" and I soon became good friends with George VK3DS and Gordon VK3ABI. They were very helpful to me over many years and fostered my interest in Short Wave listening, and in particular Ham Radio listening. In this time I built several short wave radios which worked reasonably well, but not as good as the home brew 12 valve set I later bought off Gordon.

In 1949 I started working at M.B. John Ltd. and became friends with a Mr Alec Caird. Alec was the caretaker of the Ballarat Observatory and was renowned for his expertise in repairing radio sets. I later purchased off him a converted AR8 / AT5 set as used in the RAAF Avro Anson aeroplanes, for which he had also made a rather hefty power supply.

A simple dipole was erected in our back yard and my serious SWLing got under way.

Although I had only met 2 or 3 of the local Hams face to face, after a few weeks they became very real people to me and I had great respect for them. They included : George Lance VK3DS, Gordon Yorke VK3ABI, John Lewis VK3HW, Stan Widgery VK3SE, Bert Bridger VK3VA, Malcolm McPherson and his brother, Bill Saddler, George McCulloch, Brian Stears and couple of others whose names escape me. I was fascinated by their ability to make contact world wide so easily.

I remember that:

- * John Lewis, who operated a station in Ligar St with a huge Beam on HF, was interested to learn that while he was operating the local kids could draw quite a lengthy spark off the wire fence across the road through the medium of a lead pencil.
- * On nights of lousy propagation John Lewis and Bert Bridger used to fill in time by "jawing" to each other, but Bert used to go to sleep and John's efforts to wake him up were worth listening to.
- * John Lewis's sister (a nurse) went to the UK for 3 months, and John had set up a network of Ham Stations, with the help of G8IG, and a QSO was held with her every second night, as she toured around England and Scotland.
- * In 1957 I was lucky enough to record the first signals transmitted from a space satellite. It was the beacon from the first Russian "Sputnik". Somehow the Ballarat Courier found out about it (my father-in-law worked there) and it was featured on the front page. At first the reception was disputed, but it was also confirmed by Stan Widgery and Bert Bridger and by many other Hams in Melbourne.
- * Commercial Transceivers to cover Amateur Frequencies were not readily available in Australia and it was commonplace for several Hams to gang together and place a bulk order for kits with "Halcrafters" in the USA in an attempt to reduce costs. In this way I remember that John Lewis installed the first (in Ballarat anyway) mobile HF rig in his car.
- * In 1960 my thoughts turned to house building and marriage, and my SWLing went on hold until 1991 and my involvement with BARG.— How things had changed !!!

Heard Signals

Five radio hams said they received steady "peep-peep" signals from the satellite during Sunday and yesterday.

Two of the hams, Mr N. D'Angri, of Sturt street, and Mr B. Bridger, of Lexton street, have recordings of the signals.

Mr Bridger said that he first intercepted the signals at 4.50 on Sunday afternoon. He again picked up the transmission at the same time yesterday afternoon.

At about 7.25 last night the signal faded, but at 7.10—the time it was seen over Ballarat—the signal came through very strongly. Mr Bridger said.

Ballarat Courier Oct 8th 1957



WORDS FROM THE WISE

- * What was the best thing
before sliced bread ? ? ?
- * Patience *will come* to those
who wait for it ! ! !
- * When you reach the point
where you really understand
your computer - it's obsolete !
- * Never slap a man who's
chewing tobacco !



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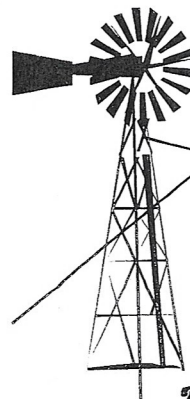
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COMPUTERS**

207 - 209 Armstrong St South.



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4 6 5 5



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WILTSHIRE LANE

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PRODUCTS

☎ 5336 1344



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500 ml spray

CARECLEAN PLUS Hand Cleaner
100 grm. Tubes

WINDSCREEN WASHER
CONCENTRATE
500 ml.

ENGINE DEGREASER
400 grm. Aerosol and 1 ltr. Tins.

DWF for TIGHT NUTS.

73 Bull VK3PH.

MOWING ROSTER



MAY	John VK3CFH	Bon VK3WBB
JUNE	Steven VK3MNA	Ian VK3CIS
JULY	Bob VK3BNC	Ian VK3HFK
AUGUST	Geoffrey VK3ADB	Kevin VK3WN
SEPTEMBER	Gordon VK3FGC	Ian VK3AXH
OCTOBER	Jeff VK3PAP	John VK3CFH
NOVEMBER	Bob VK3WBB	Steven VK3MNA
DECEMBER	Bob VK3BNC	Ian VK3HFK
JANUARY	Geoffrey VK3ADB	Gordon VK3FGC
FEBRUARY	Ian VK3AXH	Bob VK3BNC

If you have any problems with the roster, motor mower or
fuel, please contact Bob VK3BNC or Geoffrey VK3ADB.
Thanks for your help.



REMEMBER

MEMBERSHIP FEES TO BARG
ARE NOW DUE

SINGLE - \$25.00
FAMILY - \$40.00

B.A.R.G. The Ballarat Amateur Radio Group Inc.



A group of radio enthusiasts licensed to experiment with
local and international radio communications on an amateur basis.

NEW MEMBERS ALWAYS WELCOME.



IF UNDELIVERABLE
PLEASE RETURN
TO: BOX 1261
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BALLARAT 3354

B.A.R.G. NEWS

